



Town of Lexington

Lexington Youth Commission

Debra A. Hankins, Chairwoman

STUDENT APPLICATION AND INFORMATION FOR LEXINGTON YOUTH COMMISSION

Thank you for your interest in the Lexington Youth Commission. The Town of Lexington established the Lexington Youth Commission in 1977 for the purpose of carrying out programs which are designed or established to provide opportunities or to meet challenges of youth in the town. Examples of such programs are: alcohol-drug education, youth recognition awards, and recreational and community events. The Commission is mandated to appoint an advisory committee consisting of younger persons. The Youth Commission consists of 1 Chairman, 5 Adult Advisors, and no more than 30 Student Members.

YOUTH COMMISSION GOALS

- To plan, promote and participate in community service and educational activities for and with Lexington's youth and teens
- To serve as youth leaders and role models for the community
- To communicate current issues to town officials

YOUTH COMMISSION PURPOSE

- Take action in community projects that enhance the quality of life in the Lexington community
- Provide an opportunity for teens to serve as positive role models in the community
- Develop leadership skills for our future community leaders

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Any Lexington resident entering the 9th – 12th grades in the upcoming school year regardless of school or district is eligible.
2. An application form (attached) for student membership to the Lexington Youth Commission must be completed in its entirety. *It is to your benefit to type or print neatly.* All required signatures must be included before submitting.
3. Candidates who are selected as Youth Commission members will be subject to a CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) check. This is a Town requirement.

If you are appointed, information from this application will be used to forward material and to contact you (in case of meeting cancellation, etc.). Please do not offer information here which you would prefer we not use (i.e. your email address, or cell phone).

Please return your completed application to: Debra Hankins, Youth Commission Chairwoman, 294 Lowell Street, Lexington, MA 02420 by **May 15, 2015** for the 2015-2016 school year.

SELECTION PROCESS

1. All eligible candidates' applications will be reviewed by the Adult Members of the Lexington Youth Commission by **June 15, 2014**. Candidates may be asked to attend an in-person or phone interview with a Youth Commission Member. You will be notified if that is required.
2. All candidates will be notified of the outcome in June after the review process is completed.
3. We have a limited number of spaces, so not all applicants will be appointed.

STUDENT MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Student Members must attend regular Youth Commission meetings scheduled for the **second Thursday of every month**, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., September through May. Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in termination.
2. Some community service activities are done during school hours with parents' permission.
3. Each Student Member must serve on a team, which may meet in addition to the monthly scheduled meetings.
4. Selected applicants must be willing to commit to a full year term. Members may serve up to 4 years.
5. Student Members must recruit and involve other teens for activities, fundraisers and community service projects.
6. Student Members are expected to maintain a high level of good behavior and citizenship in school and in the community. Youth Commission Members represent the Town of Lexington and should conduct themselves accordingly.
7. Student Members must establish communication lines between themselves and the other members (adults and students) of the Youth Commission to ensure they are informed of all Commission activities. It is your responsibility to communicate with other LYC members, not your parents.
8. Student Members may be required to purchase a Lexington Youth Commission t-shirt or sweatshirt to be worn at all activities.
9. ***Each Student Member is required to participate in all Youth Commission sponsored activities and programs.*** This is approximately 1 event per month. New members may be required to attend a training session that will take place prior to our September meeting.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

The Lexington Youth Commission is involved in several community service projects and activities throughout the year. In the past, some of these activities have included:

- Caring for the LYC Traffic Island by planting flowers and doing the spring and fall clean up,
- Selling candy to raise funds to donate to the Lexington Food Pantry
- Delivering Thanksgiving turkey dinners to Lexington families in need
- Holding December fundraiser for children of need in Lexington
- Serving Lexington Senior Center Holiday Dinners in February
- Helping to decorate the Town center for Halloween
- Working with the students from the Cotting School on a project at the Cotting School.
- Participating in Patriot's Day Festivities
- Coordinating the Outstanding Youth Award

QUESTIONS????

If you have questions or need more information about Commission activities or programs, please contact the Youth Commission Chairwoman, Deb Hankins at 781 910 0841, or dhank1276@aol.com



Town of Lexington

Lexington Youth Commission

Debra A. Hankins, Chairwoman

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NEATLY

YOUTH COMMISSION APPLICATION TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE STUDENT – NOT THE PARENT(S)

Student Name: _____ Application Date: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Zip _____ Email: _____ @ _____

Home Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Cell Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name: _____

School You are Currently Attending: _____ Grade entering Sept 2014: _____ Class of: _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND WORK INFORMATION

Indicate below the extracurricular activities in which you have participated. List offices held or responsibilities under each activity. Attach additional information if needed. (clubs, volunteer jobs, athletics, charities, student government, band, drama, etc.)

List any work experience you have had: _____

Which aspects of the Youth Commission interest you? _____

Why do you want to join the Youth Commission? _____

Please list 2 school and/or community references and phone #:

1. _____ (____) ____ - ____

2. _____ (____) ____ - ____

I have read the application packet, and understand the commitment of being a member of the Youth Commission. I also understand that I must attend all Youth Commission meetings, activities, programs, unless excused by the Chair of the Youth Commission or Adult Advisor

Signature of Student Applicant

Date

PARENTS' OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE & AUTHORIZATION

- ***I understand the commitment involved with the Youth Commission, and approve of my son/daughter's applying.***

- In addition, if appointed I grant permission to the **Lexington Youth Commission** to use my child's name, likeness, and/or photographic image in the production of the following:

Newspaper Articles, Annual Town Report, Publicity, Brochures, Newsletters, Web sites, or other events directly related to my child's/youth's involvement in the Lexington Youth Commission.

- I understand that if, for whatever reason, at any point in time, I decide to revoke this authorization, and I so notify the Lexington Youth Commission in writing, all references to my child/youth (i.e., name, likeness, and/or photographic image) will no longer be used. I understand that web page references and web page photographic images will be removed within thirty (30) days of the written notification. I understand that the Lexington Youth Commission is not responsible for access to the internet information or downloads made by users using the web prior to this removal of web references (i.e., name, likeness, and/or photographic image). I further understand that my child's/youth's name, likeness, and/or photographic image may continue to be used in any publication already printed or published prior to my revocation of the consent provided herein.
- We have checked this form for omissions and errors. To the best of our knowledge, the information reported is complete and correct.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

This authorization form to be kept on file until the student graduates from High School.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAIL, OR SCANNED AND EMAILED BY **MAY 15, 2015**

Please return your completed application to:
Debra Hankins, Youth Commission Chairwoman
294 Lowell Street
Lexington, MA 02420
PHONE: (781) 910 0841
EMAIL: dhank1276@aol.com